## UNIFIED INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM OPERATING AT DEQ

Team will enhance efficiency and effectiveness in dealing with environmental issues in the aftermath of Katrina

The Department of Environmental Quality has worked with its state and federal partners in establishing a Unified Incident Management Team (IMT) for the coordination of environmental-related emergency response and recovery efforts. Joining DEQ in the IMT are the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) "Strike Team"; EPA Region 6 emergency response units; and representatives from the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinators Office (LOSCO), the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The integration of planning and response efforts and sharing of information under a defined operational structure will enhance efficiency and effectiveness in dealing with public health and environmental issues in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.